

Application No. 10/643,330
AMENDMENT E

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently amended) A method of making synthetic diamond comprising:
- providing cremated human or animal remains;
 - collecting residual carbon from said cremated human or animal remains by purifying said cremated human or animal remains in the presence of additional carbon from another source; and
 - converting said residual carbon to diamond.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said converting step is carried out under conditions effective to form a diamond gemstone.
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising faceting said diamond gemstone.
- 18-33. (Canceled)
34. (Newly presented) A method of making synthetic diamond comprising carbon derived from cremated remains, the method comprising:
- providing cremated human or animal remains;
 - contacting the cremated remains with additional carbon;
 - purifying the cremated remains while the cremated remains are in contact with said additional carbon, yielding purified carbon derived at least in part from said cremated remains; and

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- e. converting said purified carbon derived at least in part from said cremated remains to diamond.
- 35. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said cremated human or animal remains are the result of cremation at conventional conditions.
- 36. (Newly presented) The method of claim 35, wherein said conventional conditions include a temperature of 1400 degrees to 1800 degrees Fahrenheit (760 to 980 degrees C).
- 37. (Newly presented) The method of claim 35, wherein said conventional conditions include the presence of oxygen.
- 38. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said cremated remains as provided have been reduced to ashes.
- 39. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said cremated remains at the providing step consist essentially of bone ash and a small amount of carbon.
- 40. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the cremated remains at the providing step are light gray in color.
- 41. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the purifying step is a halogen purification technique.
- 42. (Newly presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the halogen purification technique is carried out by heating the remains in a furnace in the presence of chlorine gas under conditions effective to remove essentially all materials but carbon from the cremated remains.
- 43. (Newly presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the conditions of the halogen purification technique are also effective to graphitize said carbon.

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44. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said converting step is carried out by crystal growth sublimation.
45. (Newly presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said converting step is carried out under conditions effective to form a diamond gemstone.
46. (Newly presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising faceting said diamond gemstone.